

1 ~~28.~~ A method of cutting a fiber-cement workpiece, comprising:
2 pressing a first guide surface of a first guide member and a second guide
3 surface of a second guide member against a surface of the workpiece, the first guide
4 member having a first interior surface and the second guide member having a second
5 interior surface spaced apart from the first interior surface by a gap;
6 reciprocating a cutting blade between the first and second guide members
7 and along a path transverse to the surface of the workpiece, the cutting blade having a
8 first side spaced apart from the first interior surface by a first side spacing and the cutting
9 blade having a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface by a second side
10 spacing, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are approximately
11 0.040 to 0.055 inch; and
12 moving the cutting blade along a cutting path through the fiber-cement
13 workpiece.

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2 ~~29.~~ A method of cutting a fiber-cement workpiece, comprising:
3 pressing a first guide surface of a first guide member and a second guide
4 surface of a second guide member against a surface of the workpiece, the first guide member
5 having a first interior surface and the second guide member having a second interior surface
6 spaced apart from the first interior surface by a gap;
7 reciprocating a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and
8 along a path transverse to the surface of the workpiece, the cutting blade having a first side
9 spaced apart from the first interior surface by a first side spacing and the cutting blade having
10 a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface by a second side spacing,
11 wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are approximately 13% to 22% of
12 a thickness of the fiber-cement workpiece; and
13 moving the cutting blade along a cutting path through the fiber-cement
workpiece.

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1 A method of cutting a fiber-cement workpiece, comprising:
2 pressing a first guide surface of a first guide member and a second guide
3 surface of a second guide member against a surface of the workpiece, the first guide member
4 having a first interior surface and the second guide member having a second interior surface
5 spaced apart from the first interior surface by a gap distance;
6 reciprocating a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and
7 along a path transverse to the surface of the workpiece, the cutting blade having a first side
8 spaced apart from the first interior surface by a first side spacing and the cutting blade having
9 a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface by a second side spacing,
10 wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are approximately 16% to 22% of
11 the gap distance; and
12 moving the cutting blade along a cutting path through the fiber-cement
13 workpiece.

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31.

1 A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:
2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;
5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,
8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is juxtaposed to the second interior surface across a gap; and
10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing and the cutting blade having
14 a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a
15 second side spacing, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are from

16 0.040 to 0.055 inch to inhibit premature wear of the motor or the drive assembly and to
17 provide even edge cuts along a fiber-cement workpiece cut by the cutting blade.

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~~32.~~ The cutting tool of claim ⁷~~31~~ wherein the blade has a width of 0.25 inch.

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~~33.~~ The cutting tool of claim ⁷~~31~~ wherein the first side spacing and the
2 second side spacing are approximately 0.0425 to 0.045 inch.

1 ¹⁰
~~34.~~ A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:
2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;
5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,
8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is juxtaposed to the second interior surface across a gap; and
10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing and the cutting blade having
14 a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a
15 second side spacing, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are from 13%
16 to 22% of a thickness of a fiber-cement workpiece to be cut with the blade to inhibit
17 premature wear of the motor or the drive assembly and to provide even edge cuts along the
18 fiber-cement workpiece.

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~~35.~~ The cutting tool of claim ^{10/10}~~34~~ wherein the blade has a width of 0.25 inch.

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~~36.~~ The cutting tool of claim ^{10/10}~~34~~ wherein the first side spacing and the
2 second side spacing are approximately 0.040 to 0.055 inch.

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37. A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:

2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;

5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,
8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is spaced apart from the second interior surface by a gap distance; and

10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing and the cutting blade having
14 a second side spaced apart from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a
15 second side spacing, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are from 16%
16 to 22% of the gap distance to inhibit premature wear of the motor or the drive assembly and
17 to provide even edge cuts along a fiber-cement workpiece cut by the cutting blade.

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38. The cutting tool of claim 13 wherein the blade has a width of 0.25 inch.

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39. The cutting tool of claim 13 wherein the first side spacing and the
2 second side spacing are approximately 0.0425 to 0.045 inch.

14
40. A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:

2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;

5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,

8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is juxtaposed to the second interior surface across a gap; and
10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing, a second side spaced apart
14 from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a second side spacing, and a
15 top surface between the first and second sides having a curvature concave with respect to the
16 first and second guide surfaces, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are
17 from 0.040 to 0.055 inch to inhibit premature wear of the motor or the drive assembly and to
18 provide even edge cuts along a fiber-cement workpiece cut by the cutting blade.

1 12/41. The cutting tool of claim 40 wherein the blade has a width of 0.25 inch.

1 18/42. The cutting tool of claim 40 wherein the first side spacing and the
2 second side spacing are approximately 0.0425 to 0.045 inch.

1 19/43. A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:
2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;
5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,
8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is juxtaposed to the second interior surface across a gap; and
10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing, a second side spaced apart
14 from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a second side spacing, and a

15 top surface between the first and second sides having a curvature concave with respect to the
16 first and second guide surfaces, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are
17 from 13% to 22% of a thickness of a fiber-cement workpiece to be cut with the blade to
18 inhibit premature wear of the motor or the drive assembly and to provide even edge cuts
19 along the fiber-cement workpiece.

1 ²⁰~~44~~ The cutting tool of claim ¹⁹~~43~~ wherein the blade has a width of 0.25 inch.

1 ²¹~~45~~ The cutting tool of claim ¹⁹~~43~~ wherein the first side spacing and the
2 second side spacing are approximately 0.040 to 0.055 inch.

1 ²²~~46~~ A fiber-cement cutting tool, comprising:
2 a hand-held drive unit comprising a housing, a motor coupled to the housing, a
3 switch operatively coupled to the motor to selectively activate the motor, and a drive
4 assembly operatively coupled to the motor;
5 a guide assembly comprising first and second guide members attached to the
6 drive unit, the first guide member having a first guide surface and a first interior surface, and
7 the second guide member having a second guide surface and a second interior surface,
8 wherein the first and second guide surfaces define a guide plane, and wherein the first
9 interior surface is spaced apart from the second interior surface by a gap distance; and
10 a cutting blade between the first and second guide members and coupled to the
11 drive assembly to reciprocate between the first and second guide members along a path
12 transverse to the guide plane, the cutting blade having a first side spaced apart from the first
13 interior surface of the first guide member by a first side spacing, a second side spaced apart
14 from the second interior surface of the second guide member by a second side spacing, and a
15 top surface between the first and second sides having a curvature concave with respect to the
16 first and second guide surfaces, wherein the first side spacing and the second side spacing are
17 from 16% to 22% of the gap distance to inhibit premature wear of the motor or the drive
18 assembly and to provide even edge cuts along a fiber-cement workpiece cut by the cutting
19 blade.